



U.S. Department of Justice
Drug Enforcement Administration
FOI/Records Management Section
8701 Morrisette Drive
Springfield, Virginia 22152

Case Number: 19-00174-F

DEC 18 2018

Subject: Any documents, investigation findings, memorandums, or communications that mention Reed College between the years of 2001 and 2012

Via Electronic Mail

Email: 64238-27866657@requests.muckrock.com

Daniel Boguslaw
MuckRock News
DEPT MR 64238
411 A Highland Avenue
Somerville, Massachusetts 02144-2516

Dear Mr. Boguslaw:

This letter responds to your Freedom of Information/Privacy Act request emailed November 26, 2018, to the DEA.FOIA mailbox, seeking access to information regarding the above subject.

To retrieve the information that you may be seeking requires more specificity. Therefore, we are requesting that you provide us with additional information concerning the records you are seeking, such as a physical address for Reed College. In addition, the portion of your request for any documents, investigative findings, memorandums, or communications that mention Reed College between 2001 and 2012, is not a reasonable description of a record. First, your citation to "Any documents," is so broad that it envelops every possible record that could or would be maintained by any of the 500 offices and/or decision units that currently comprise DEA for the years 2001-2012. Second, since you have not specified any particular office or individual that communicated with Reed College, a search must be conducted of each of the 500 DEA offices and/or decision units. These offices communicate with individuals, business entities, suspects, contractors, legal representatives, defendants, or any number of persons functioning in virtually any capacity. The records contained in the files that document communications must be read to determine whether they meet your description. To conduct such a search and review documents would be tantamount to research.

Furthermore, memorandums and communications may be retrieved based upon the date, title or name, author, recipient, subject matter of the record, and the particular office(s) that may maintain the records. Moreover, our ability to locate a particular communicate, as far back as 2001, is limited, since correspondence files are generally maintained for a period of two years. Thus, any correspondence, depending on the office to which it was sent, may no longer exist.

Similarly, communications also entail e-mails. DEA may retrieve information based upon a particular employee's e-mail account. However, to locate e-mails and/or correspondence electronically stored that may mention Reed College, if they exist, requires a full text search of all DEA e-mail accounts, or a search of all documents previously stored as a result of requests for information. To retrieve e-mails or other records of communications pertaining to Reed College requires additional particulars and information. Without identifying the sender and/or recipient, and/or a specific date would require a search of more than 400 servers and 15,000 e-mail accounts, using the search terms such as "Reed College." Then each e-mail would have to be manually read to determine whether the contents reflect a "communication" that may be responsive to your request. Such a search would encompass a period of months and cause an interruption in normal DEA operations.

Therefore, no further action will be initiated on this request until we are in receipt of a specific DEA office you wish to be searched, sender and recipient names for memos and communications, specific DEA employee names and physical address for Reed College. If this office does not receive your response within 30 days, DEA will assume that you do not wish to pursue this matter and your request will be administratively closed. Please forward your response to the following address:

DEA Headquarters
Attn: FOIA/PA Unit (SARF)
8701 Morrisette Drive
Springfield, VA 22152

You may contact our FOIA Public Liaison at 202-307-7596 for any further assistance and to discuss any aspect of your request. Additionally, you may contact the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) at the National Archives and Records Administration to inquire about the FOIA mediation services they offer. The contact information for OGIS is as follows: Office of Government Information Services, National Archives and Records Administration, Room 2510, 8601 Adelphi Road, College Park, Maryland 20740-6001; e-mail at ogis@nara.gov; telephone at 202-741-5770; toll free at 1-877-684-6448; or facsimile at 202-741-5769.

If you are not satisfied with my response to this request, you may administratively appeal by writing to the Director, Office of Information Policy (OIP), United States Department of Justice, Suite 11050, 1425 New York Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20530-0001, or you may submit an appeal through OIP's FOIAonline portal by creating an account on the following website: <https://www.foiaonline.gov/foiaonline/action/public/home>. Your appeal must be postmarked or electronically transmitted within 90 days of the date of my response to your request. If you submit your appeal by mail, both the letter and the envelope should be clearly marked "Freedom of Information Act Appeal."

If you have any questions regarding this letter, you may contact Government Information Specialist Jewell W. Carroll at 202-307-4006.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Katherine Myrick". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Katherine" and last name "Myrick" clearly distinguishable.

Katherine L. Myrick, Chief
Freedom of Information/Privacy Act Unit
FOI/Records Management Section